

The most important of these records are perhaps those of Black Grouse, *Lyrurus tetrix*, Capercaillie, *Tetrao urogallus*, Ferruginous Duck, *Aythya nyroca* and Aquatic Warbler, *Acrocephalus paludicola*.

Black Grouse and Capercaillie were scarce breeders in the Rhein-Wupper region even in former days. FREY (1948) collected a male Black Grouse in 17.04.1926 at Reuschenberg, his last field observations stemming from 1933. The Capercaillie specimen, a female from Kirchen a. d. Sieg, collected November 1926, is now lost. All recorded Capercaillie individuals are treated by FREY (1948) as stragglers from the Sauerland area.

A nest of *Aythya nyroca* was secured by P. FREY in June 1937 in Reuschenberg, when the clutch was destroyed during hay-harvest. This is the first and sole certain breeding record of the Ferruginous Duck for the whole Rheinland area (GLUTZ VON BLOTZHEIM 1969).

The specimen of the Aquatic Warbler was mounted in a showcase together with Savi's Warbler, *Locustella luscinioides*, Grasshopper Warbler, *Locustella naevia*, Sedge Warbler, *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*, Marsh Warbler, *Acrocephalus palustris*, Reed Warbler, *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*, Great Reed Warbler, *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* and Blue-Throat, *Luscinia cyanecula*. All were collected in the Wupper estuaries and swamp areas at Leverkusen-Wiesdorf and -Bürrig between 1906 and 1931. Their status is given (FREY 1948) as common to regular breeding species with

exception of the Aquatic Warbler. The former occurrence and breeding records of these reed dwelling ecological specialists are evidence of undisturbed natural habitat conditions during that period.

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